

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10, and 15-16 remain pending in the application. Claims 2, 5, 9 and 11-14 have been cancelled; Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10, and 15 have been amended; and Claim 16 is new. Basis for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

OBJECTION TO AMENDMENT

The Amendment filed on October 10, 2002 (i.e., Paper No. 4) is objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure.

Claim 1 has been amended to define an air conditioner comprising a first and a second unit for conditioning air provided to this compartment. This language is fully supported by the specification on Page 5, lines 1-4, when it states that air conditioner 100 includes an inside/outside air unit and an air conditioner unit. Both of these units condition air which is provided to the passenger compartment.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

DRAWINGS

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

The claims have been amended to overcome the objection.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

SPECIFICATION

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claims subject matter.

The claims and the specification have been amended to overcome the objection.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended the claims from two air conditioning units to two units that condition air to overcome the rejection.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, and 15 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have reviewed all of the claims and the specification and have amended both the claims and the specification in order to overcome the rejection.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

As best can be understood in view of the indefiniteness of the claims, **Claims 1 and 15 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by ***Mitsubishi Heavy Industry Ltd.*** (JP2000-16057 A). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 2, which define the engagement portion as a hook portion extending in the insertion direction of the pin in the hole with the hook portion being provided at the top end of the pin.

JP2000-16057 A fails to teach or suggest the hook portion defined in amended Claim 1 of the present invention. Thus, Applicants believe Claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguish over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 3-4, 6-8, 10, and 15, which ultimately depend from Claim 1, also patentably distinguish over the art of record

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New Claim 16 is a dependent claim depending from Claim 1 and is, thus, believed to be allowable. Applicants believe new Claim 16 reads on the elected invention of the present application.

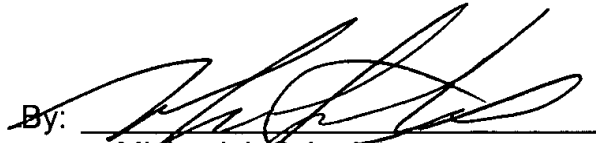
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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